

[27th February 1928]

(b) what effect this circular has had on school boys and whether it is being enforced now; and

(c) whether Government propose to do anything further in this direction?

A.—(a) Yes. A copy of the circular<sup>a</sup> issued in 1925 is placed on the table.

(b) The circular is still in force. There are no specific data as to its effect on school boys.

(c) No.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—“ Will the hon. the Minister for Education call for a report on the effect which this circular has had on the students in schools and colleges?”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I shall try my best to obtain that information on this point.”

*Introduction of instruction in Agriculture in Elementary Schools.*

\* 1529 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any applications for grant-in-aid from elementary schools have been received for introducing instruction in agriculture;

(b) whether the general question of introducing agriculture as a part of the curriculum in certain elementary schools on the Punjab model has been referred to a Committee;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, who are the members of the Committee and what its terms of reference are;

(d) whether the Committee has been asked to consult public opinion on the subject by inviting the views of interested persons; and

(e) whether the report of the Committee will be published for criticism before action is taken on the same by the Government?

A.—(a) Applications have been received for grants-in-aid for the introduction of instruction in agriculture in the C.M.S. Higher Elementary School, Kidyanagar-Kondapalli, Kistna district, and in the school maintained by the Malabar Reconstruction Trust at Tanur. They are under the consideration of Government.

(b) Yes.

(c) The members of the Committee are the Director of Agriculture as President and the Principal, Agricultural College, Coimbatore, the Principal, Teachers' College, Saidapet, and Mr. R. M. Statham.

The terms of reference to the Committee are as follows :—

- (i) To frame a syllabus for an alternative course in agriculture proposed to be introduced in select higher elementary and middle schools in this Presidency and the number of hours to be allotted for the course;